Year 2 (1999-2000)	
Increase in prices of:	
Kerosene (PDS)	30 per cent of revised ex-storage point price at the end of year 1.
LPG (Domestic)	A further 33 per cent of subsidy to be passed on.
Year 3 (2000-2001)	
Increase in prices of:	
Kerosene (PDS)	20 per cent of the revised ex-stogare point price at the beginning of the year.
LPG (Domestic)	Suitable adjustment in prices to reach subsidy level at 15% of import parity.
Year 4 (2001-2002)	
Increase in prices of:	
Kerosene (PDS)	Suitable adjustment in prices to reach subsidy level at 33.33% of the import parity.
	Full Deregulation:
2002 onwards	
	Transfer of subsidy on SKO (PDS) and LPG (Domestic) to the fiscal budget of the Government.

Since September, 1997, the prices of diesel have been revised on ten occasions, out of which six were decreases and four were increases. Last revision was made effective 6th October, 1999. The subsidy on LPG (Domestic) has been withdrawn to the extent of Approx. 33% in February, 99. In the event of consumer prices of major petroleum products moving to market prices in phased manner as envisaged in the above Government decisions, the gain/loss to consumer in the country would be corresponding to decrease/increase in the prices of these products in international market.

Availability of Gas to Pipavav Power Project

*178. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing gas availability has since been increased from Tapti Fields from 3.5 MCMD to 5.5 MCMD;

(b) if so, whether Government allocate the increased 2 MCMD gas from the Tapti Fields to the Pipavav gas based power project in Gujarat in the near future; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and how the commitment was made by the Central Government to the Gujarat Government?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Natural gas availability from the South Tapti field has gone up from the peak production rate of 4.2 million standard cubic meters per day (MMSCMD) envisaged in the Production Sharing Contract to the present level of around 5.5 MMSCMD.

(b) and (c) It was decided in 1989 to allocate gas from the yet to be developed Mid and South Tapti fields to a power project to be put up at Pipavav and take gas from Gandhar fields to the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) pipeline system. However, subsequently keeping in view the fact that the investment decisions to develop Mid and South Tapti fields were yet to be taken, it was agreed to allocate the Gandhar gas for two gas based power projects of 600 MW each in Gandhar area and to take the gas from Mid and South Tapti fields to meet the existing commitments along the HBJ pipeline system. The Government of Gujarat had been informed of the position.

National Calamity of Rarest Severity

*179. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission that if one-third of the population of a State is affected by natural calamity this can be termed as a disaster "a National calamity of rarest severity";

(b) whether Government are aware that the super-cyclone that rammed Orissa, 12 districts of the State have been severely affected; and

(c) if so, what stands in the way for Government to declare the disaster in Orissa a "National calamity of rarest severity"?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH